

# Mouth of The River

Issue 4

Mouth of the River is a publication of the ORHS Journalism Class

April 14, 1993

## Closing the Curtain on Future Follies?

by Mike Merenda

After a string of inappropriateness in past years' follies, the pressure's on the senior class to keep follies appropriate this year. "If there are any repeat performances, such as last year, there could quite possibly be no further follies," said principal Ann Brown. "The class has a big responsibility this year."

"I think it's ridiculous to threaten us and other underclassmen. The intent is not to be improper and it shouldn't be such a big deal," said senior Mara Pike. Senior James Walsh also expressed his feelings concerning the issue, "It's very depressing. I was planning on coming to the future follies. I've always enjoyed the ones in the past and I'm planning on enjoying the ones in the future."

Supervisor, Mr. Lord doesn't anticipate any problems with appropriateness and described the process like this, "The kids submit their scripts to the directors, the directors make corrections and clear them with us and we make suggestions if necessary. There have been no real problems. We can't really control what goes on stage."

Overall, the seniors interviewed were very excited for the start of follies. "Senior follies represents the ultimate in seniorDOM," said Owain Harris.

Thus far about 30 to 40 skits are at or are nearing a finished state according to Nicole Bellabona and Ian Fitzpatrick, this years chosen directors.

Although a large group of the senior class has been involved there is a definite group who could be considered "regulars" commented Bellabona. Mr. Lord estimated that between 50-70% of the class has been involved and that the reorganization of rehearsals will help the overall outcome. Bellabona added, "Our numbers at writing sessions have been so good that we're going to have a hard time casting everyone...But we will!"

### Findings Raise Questions

## Results of Ethic Survey at Oyster River High

by Kimberly Anderson and Chandoline Byrnes

Students at ORHS are generally stressed and negative about school. They are most likely to feel guilty about copying others' homework, they are worried about drugs and alcohol, and for the most part are against "sleeping around". In a recent survey, 108 ORHS students grade 9-12 were asked about their attitudes toward stealing, lying, bad

language, respect, school, sex, drugs, religion, and general well-being.

On the average, people agree that they feel a lot of stress from school. They are also between agreement and uncertainty that their parents care more about their grades than they do. Is the stress caused by the parents pushing for a better grade? "Most kids are aware of what's expected from them. We don't need extra pressure from outside. I think

we can handle it on our own," said junior Mike Merenda.

A very high percentage believed it was "no big deal" to copy another person's homework. A male sophomore called homework "Mindless busywork. After all, if you do well on the tests, you've obviously learned the material."

The issue of drugs is not uncommon in any high school. Many students knew many people who use drugs and/or alcohol at least three times a week, yet only 5 admitted to doing it themselves.

"If there was one thing which I wanted to permanently dull my mind, drugs would be the second choice to a lobotomy," responded a male

**ETHICS: cont. on pg 12**



Dana Loubier, Lindsay Warren, Susan Morris, and Becky Bucar writing Follies skits. C.Byrnes photo)

Fitzpatrick agreed and added that stopping the use of drugs and alcohol during the performance will also be a problem. "I hope certain people don't ruin it (follies) for others."

Various seniors agreed that follies definitely helps with class unity. "It's really a good thing for the class to come together and everyone really seems to enjoy themselves," said senior Chandoline Byrnes. Senior Monica Dufour commented, "It stinks what they are doing to follies, it is a part of ORHS, and it should

stay for years to come. It's a tradition that allows us to get to know each other a little better."

Virtually all people interviewed agreed that Bellabona and Fitzpatrick were doing a great job. "They're doing a fine job," said Owain Harris, "especially because they're trying to involve the whole class." Mr. Lord is "very happy," with the job that they've been doing thus far.

All in all I guess we, the "non-seniors," are just going to have to wait a bit longer before the 16th annual (and possibly last) senior follies opens its curtain on April 15 and 16.



French 5 sings at Language Festival. (C.Byrnes photo)

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# ORHS Math Team Wins State Title; Runners Up in League

by John Slippy

With a huge grin and a great deal of pride, Mr. Stoykovich tells of his math teams' recent great achievement, winning the state Math meet. "It was an exciting meet. The team did a super job and I was really proud of them", said Mr. Stoykovich.

With the highest score out of 52 other teams from throughout the state, Oyster River seemingly demolished the competition with a span of 22 points between us and the competition. The fact that we fell short of the state title by two points last year made the victory much sweeter, according to team members. Oyster River finished with a score of 361.5. The runner-up was Exeter Area High with a score of 339.5.

The competing team members were Kevin Russell, Megan Frazer, Neil Bostrom, Beth Dell, Kasey Evans, Amy Swift, Molly Capron, Kyle Krouse, Mike Northrop, and Patrick Russell. Two from the team were high scorers overall for their grade. They were Freshman Kevin Russell and Senior Mike Northrop.

The Oyster River math team participates in two leagues. The Southeastern League, which involves local schools, and the Tri-State league which involves teams from Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire.

In a recent Southeastern League meet they moved into first place out of eight local schools.

Many members of the OR math team are obviously talented. Others look at math as a hobby or just something to do. According to Neil Bostrom, "It's something fun to do that does come pretty easily to him."

Steve Crawford, an alternate member of the math team, said math is "not a chore, but it's not a talent for me as it is for Patrick, Kyle and Molly."

The OR math teams' latest meet was at Amesbury, Massachusetts on April seventh. This meet put OR in second place for the season in the Tri-State league.

Senior Patrick Russell was top scorer in the league for the season. He and Bill Simmons both tied for

first place at Amesbury with 24 points each. They both only missed one question.

Kyle Krouse and Mike Northrop also helped the team with a score of 21 points each. Molly Capron finished with 15 points as well as Amy Swift, one of the high scoring juniors.

## Large Turnout for Language Festival



Kyle Krouse and Tricia Khleif doing a "burlesque" skit in the foreign Language Festival. (Byrnes photo)

by Amy Dolliver and Vicki Walker

If nothing else, the stripping scene with Kyle Krouse and Tricia Khleif was a success. This was the opinion of many students about the March 23 Foreign Language Festival. This brief moment of laughter during the French 5 song seemed to be one of the only memorable moments of the entire evening.

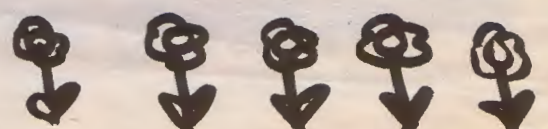
The festivities began at 6:30 when the singing began in the gym. After the songs were presented, the rest of the night was broken up into five rounds. During the twenty five minute sessions, parents and friends were free to enjoy food brought in by the students, watch plays performed upstairs, and participate in games and activities.

The fifth annual festival did not seem to go as well as in previous years. This was mainly due to the lack of preparation time. Regardless of the previous festivals, this one received mixed feelings. One thing is certain, everyone thought the festival could have been much better.

Several students commented on their disapproval of the singing. "Unorganized", "Boring", "Embarrassing", and "I didn't understand what was said", were just some of the comments thrown out about the several hours long production. Senior and french member, Sean Healy, put forth his suggestions on how to make the singing more enjoyable, "I think we should add dancing and have better songs. The singing itself needs much improvement."

Other suggestions about the festival were that it should be during school or earlier in evening or on a weekend. Some thought that the festival should be altogether discontinued and some did not see a need for it. As Junior and spanish member, Jillian Downey put it, "It's the third one I've been to and it gets a little tiring. The parents don't know what we're saying anyway."

However, not everyone felt that the evening was a disaster. One student said, "It's definitely worth the extra credit." Language teacher Miss Batson mentioned before the festival, "It's a fun idea, the kids are working hard on it and I think a lot of kids are looking forward to it."



## "Eddie" Play Gives New Light to Alcohol Abuse

by Kelly DeForest and Jason Bennington

"People have a serious disregard and misunderstanding about how dangerous drugs and alcohol really are, maybe after watching 'Eddie,' they might think twice before using or abusing another drug," quoted Danny Gault after seeing the production of "Eddie."

Opinions of the play varied to many degrees, as Danny Gault took one point of view, Jay Belmore took the opposite and said, "I don't think that the play will help high school kids with this problem, because, like Eddie, they think they know it all."

A survey was given, after the viewing of the play, of 43 students ranging from 9-12 grade. Of the students surveyed, the majority agreed that "the play was effective" (79%) and that it was worth taking school time to see it. Many of the students surveyed were unaware that this high school had a program to deal with students with drug and alcohol problems.

The production, along with the help of some Oyster River students, was led by Chris Shea who played the role of Eddie. Karen Humphrey stated that "Chris being a recovered drug addict and alcoholic himself and portraying the role of Eddie made the play more effective."

On March 16, the school traveled to the Paul Arts Center, located on the U.N.H. campus, to see the production of "Eddie." This play focused on a teenager's life that was interrupted by the abuse of drugs and alcohol.

"Eddie" was a production sponsored by CHAIN, the Community Health Action Information Network, to help inform students of many ages about the dangers of abusing drugs and alcohol. "It [the play] will help me make decisions about my life style in the future" stated an Oyster River student who appreciates what CHAIN is doing for the community.

## Language Festival Romance



Holly MacKay and Mike Northrop dancing the night away. (Byrnes photo)

**Don't Forget, Senior Follies,  
Thurs and Fri, April 16+17th**



Findings Raise Questions

# Results of Ethic Survey at Oyster River High

Circle one each  
Male Female  
9 10 11 12

Agree Uncertain Disagree

1) Borrowing homework from a friend is no big deal.

1 2 X 3 4 5

2) Having sex with people whom you don't have a loving relationship with is O.K. as long as it is mutual.

1 2 3 X 4 5

3) I am bothered by the amount of stealing in this school.

1 2 X 3 4 5

4) People don't show much respect for each other in this school.

1 2 X 3 4 5

5) Most people here care a lot about how they do in school.

1 2 X 3 4 5

6) Administrators listen to students and treat them with fairness.

1 2 3 X 4 5

7) Bad language is common here, but it doesn't bother me.

1 2 X 3 4 5

8) It is okay to experiment with drugs and alcohol.

1 2 3 X 4 5

9) I generally feel a great deal of stress from school.

1 2 X 3 4 5

10) If I had a problem, I would feel comfortable consulting a member from Peer Outreach.

1 2 3 4 X 5

11) I feel the administration listens to and respects me.

1 2 3 X 4 5

12) Religion plays a major role in my life and daily decisions.

1 2 3 X 4 5

13) I feel the atmosphere at school is positive and supportive.

1 2 3 X 4 5

14) It often seems that my parents care more about my grades than I do.

1 2 X 3 4 5

15) Freshman "hazing" is not a problem at Oyster River.

1 2 X 3 4 5

16) I have stolen from a store once or more.

1 2 3 X 4 5

17) I think this school is physically respected by the students; vandalism is not a concern.

1 2 3 X 4 5

18) Sex before marriage is wrong.

1 2 3 4 X 5

19) I know many people who use drugs and/or alcohol at least three times a week.

1 X 2 3 4 5

20) I use drugs and/or alcohol at least three times a week.

1 2 3 4 X 5

21) I am a generally happy person most of the time.

1 2 X 3 4 5

22) I would steal if I thought I could get away with it and I really wanted the object.

1 2 3 X 4 5

23) I don't need a reason to be angry or depressed; I'm often generally moody.

1 2 3 X 4 5

24) I respect myself, physically and mentally.

1 2 X 3 4 5

25) I lie to my parents and/or teachers often.

1 2 3 X 4 5

ORHS Average = X

## ATTENTION !

The computer systems in room 110, and the network in room 113 have been infected by a computer virus called Anti-Tel. If you have used any of your own disks in room 110, room 108, or room 113, it is very likely that your disk was infected by the virus. Any computer you used that disk with after using it at ORHS would have also been infected. Once a computer has been infected any disk used in that computer would have also been infected. This virus, if not properly removed, will destroy all the data on your hard drive, and continue to spread to any floppy disk put in your computer.

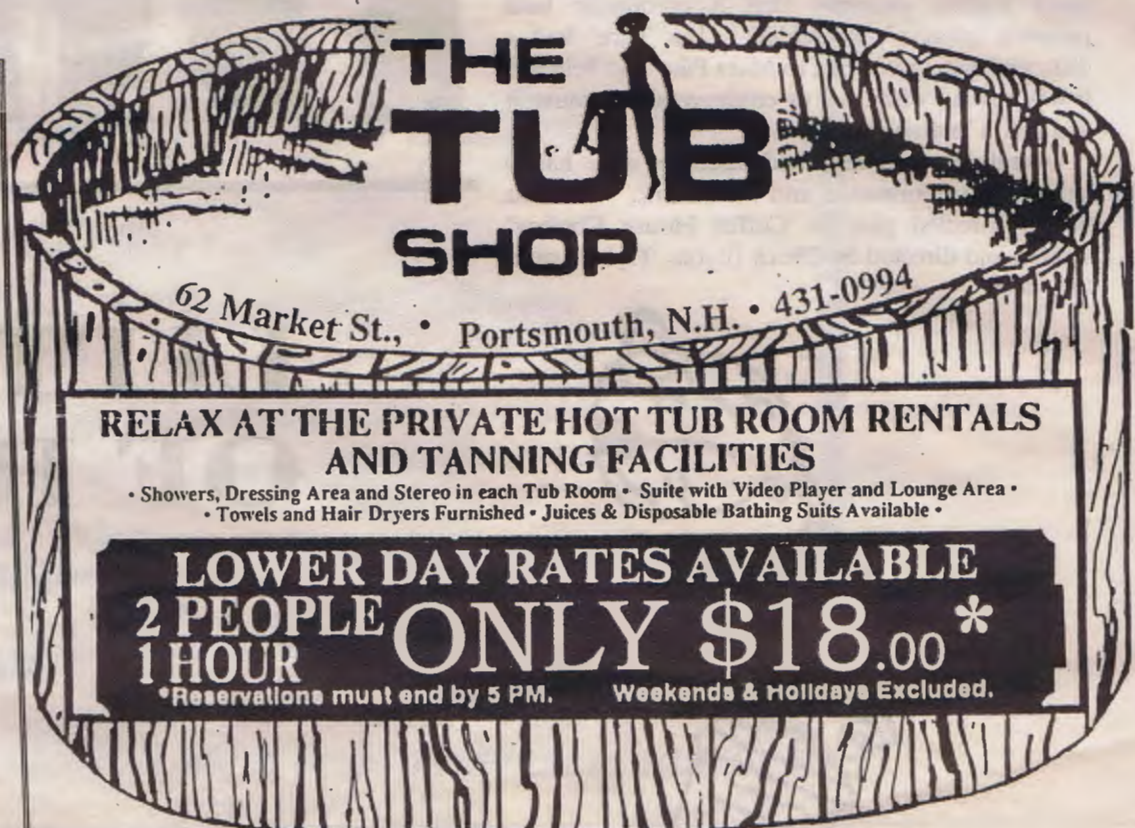
If you think your system or disks may have been infected by the virus see Mrs. Sheldon or your computer teacher. Due to the number of computer viruses in the area it is recommended that you purchase a good quality virus protection system for your computer.

### Mouth of the River A Publication of ORHS Journalism

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Jessica Hall

## Wheelchair Access At Oyster River Needs Improvement

by Mike Johnston

As many students at Oyster River High know, the school is not open or easy to move around in. For those with a disability it is even harder, and for those confined to a wheelchair it is virtually impossible.

Jessica Hall, an eighth-grade girl at the Oyster River Middle School, suffers from a birth defect in her spine that has left her immobile. When she comes to high school next year she would find the challenges of being a freshman even more overwhelming if the school were to remain as handicap inaccessible as it is today. Her situation does not allow her to get up to the second floor, or even to get through most of the doorways. She would have a much harder time trying to adjust than the other students.

Jessica is "mad as heck" about the situation. "They really need to get their acts together," she said. She is outraged at the fact that any public building is not accessible to the handicapped, as mandated by law. As it stands, the Oyster River School Board recently had a vote to see how many people supported the \$240,000 appropriation to make the necessary changes. Although it didn't have any effect on the decision, it let the School Board know that not everyone supported it. The money is being spent to build an elevator to the second floor. Other changes

would include a new, widened entrance in the front of the school and expansions to most of the doors.

Jessica thinks that with the changes she would, on a scale of one to ten, rate the school on top, but as it is now she wouldn't even give the school a one. She does not feel that she would be included, that the unfair barriers would prevent her from

impossible for her to walk. She also has a slight learning disorder that would only compound the problem if she couldn't get into class. Other than this condition Jessica is a normal eighth-grader, enjoying reading, writing, and art, and also spending time with her friends at the mall or family at home.

Next year she will be taking the required freshman courses, along with Intro. to Art and Computers, and a special math program in the resource room. As for extra-curricular activities, she is interested in someday trying out for the girls basketball team, along with some other activities she would like to try out, provided her studying permits. Although not yet in high school, Jessica has hopes of becoming a lawyer, and says that studying is her number one priority.

After high school, and hopefully law school, Jessica plans to use her knowledge to help change national handicap laws and to help handicapped people. "I hope that everyone is aware of the problems we have with accessibility...and that people will speak up."

Jessica is off to a good start, and now that the school has heard her voice, the changes are coming soon. Graduating seniors will come back in future years to find their school very different from the way they left it, and as Jessica and many other people hope, the changes will be for the better.

*"I hope that everyone is aware of the problems we have with accessibility... and that people will speak up."*

developing as the other students. With the changes she feels she wouldn't be affected much at all, that she would be almost as able as the other students to move around.

Jessica has been getting used to her situation for seven years. In 1986 an operation to treat her condition, spina-bifida (a defect where at birth a part of the spinal cord isn't fully grown), made it

## Senior Plays Stir Up Variety of Emotions

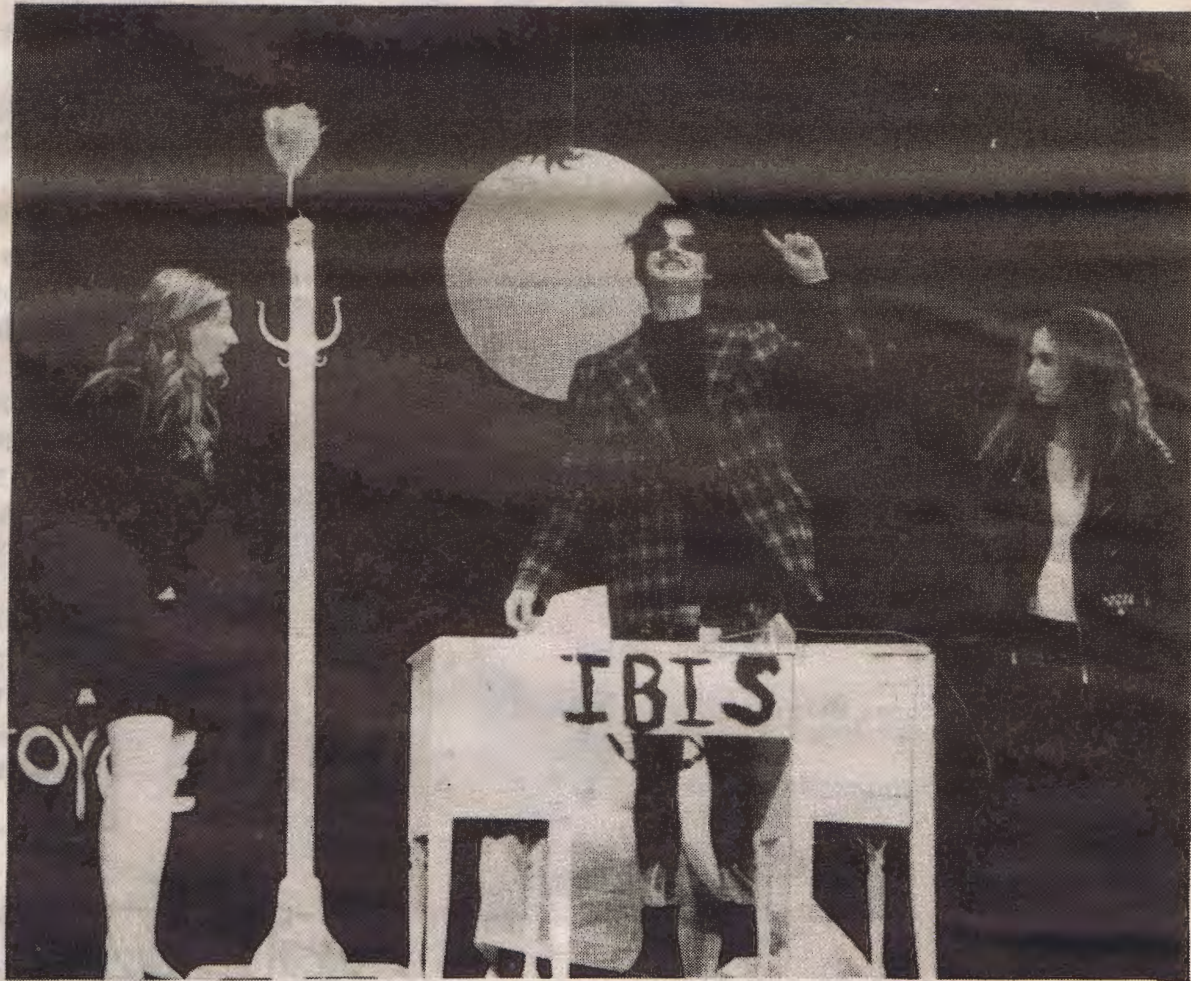
by Erica Along and Jay Belmore

The Senior directed plays have ranged from zany to melodramatic, and are definitely not over. Chuck Bryon will direct the last of five Senior plays this spring.

One of the most recent play was "Of Widows and Vegetables", directed by Megan Armitage. The play was a comical farce that depended on improvisation. The play was a great success, but stirred up mixed emotion as to its picture of society. Although a gay doctor, a suggestive zucchini, and a trigger happy car salesman may not sound controversial to you, many people felt this year's senior directed plays were both provocative and offensive. One student commented, "I thought it was funny, my parents probably would have thought it gave me some bad ideas." As for its controversy, Armitage commented, "This play is a twisted, artificially flavored comedy. It may be controversial, but people should just relax, learn to laugh, and stop being so damn politically correct."

"Ibis Tern," written and directed by Ben Stamper, was more of a drama that, according to Mr. Tappan, had a very provocative theme about the important things in life. "It's surreal and has so many bizzare elements that it certainly held people's interest," he added. "Ibis Tern" had a different twist, according to Mara Pike who believed it was neither offensive or controversial because it was just a "metaphor."

Overall, castmembers and directors were happy with thier performance and hard work. The next Senior directed play is "Coffee House Cowboy" written and directed by Chuck Bryon. Tryouts were this week.



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May 19th, 20th, and 21st





## Other School Construction Defeated

# Funds Approved For ORHS Handicap Access Renovation

by Amanda McAuley

District voters agreed (902-245) to spend \$140,000 to make Oyster River High School handicapped accessible at the Oyster River School District Meeting on Saturday, March 6th.

The American Disabilities Act (ADA) states that a student who is considered handicapped must be eligible for programs or services available to other students. Oyster River High School must be in compliance with ADA regulations by this coming September.

The renovation bond will cover several minor remodeling plans, but will also go toward the installation of an elevator, and changes in the nurse's office. Minor renovations include: widening of doorways to the cafeteria and gym, expansion of the front door airlock, ramp access to the front doors and the courtyard, and lowering of the pay phone, pencil sharpeners, and water fountains.

Three sites are being considered as locations for the elevator: the book room near the upstairs bathrooms, Mrs. Tag's back room, and Mrs. Whitten's room. The common problem with all three sites is that they don't provide access to the library mezzanine. In addition, the plans take valuable and necessary storage space.

Also at the district meeting, all elementary and middle school renovation plans were voted down. The Board may present the same plan at a district meeting in September because the bonds only failed by 85 and 80 votes, respectively. The two articles needed 66 percent of the vote to pass, but they received only 59.2 percent and 59.62 percent. The close vote was encouraging to board members because their \$9.5 million proposal failed last October with only 36.59 percent support.

Ms. Brown said, "At this point I don't know what's

going to happen." She was encouraged by the support for district plans and feels they will pass this September when the public is faced with overflowing classrooms.

As far as plans for the high school, Ms. Brown felt they were seriously affected by the voting: "If the middle and elementary school bonds had passed, they would have had a year to work on them and retire the Moharimet debt. Then they would be more likely to consider renovations here at the high school." Ms. Brown went on to say "We'll be fine through next year - other than the fact that the place is a pit."

Community members who are adamantly opposed to the spending on renovations were vocal at the district meeting. Some objected to the possible rise in taxes, while others don't want to see the end of an elementary school in Durham, or the start of larger elementary schools. Opponents feel that larger elementary schools destroy the "family" atmosphere that they currently try to achieve.

In a last minute funding attempt for the renovation bonds, Durham resident Ray Torbert realized that only a majority is needed to pass an amendment. He moved to add the cost of the Moharimet and Mast Way renovations to the budget, the last article to be voted on. Opponents called for a secret ballot to give themselves time to call people who had left back to vote, but a show of hands passed a motion to vote without further discussion. The amendment request failed in a hand count by 63 votes (296-233).

The ADA renovations at the high school will be done this summer. Additional renovations will be required in the future. Middle and elementary school renovations will be voted on again at a district meeting tentatively scheduled for this coming September.

## Twister

# A Cutthroat Competition To The End

by Chris Williams and Chris Kasiewicz

Many people think that Twister is a friendly family game. This was not the case at the recent Oyster River High School Twister Competition. Junior Matt Blasik, who was one of the four judges said, "It was cut throat competition."

You may be asking yourself, "Twister at Oyster River, what for?" The answer is simple, money. The junior class organized the competition in order to raise money for the upcoming prom. Even though they only brought in \$60, the competition itself was a success, by bringing together students and faculty alike.

The tournament consisted of eleven teams and

took place after school for five days. The undefeated "Elastics" consisting of seniors Darren Miller, Gabe Wallman, Kyle Krouse, Chris Jerard, Scott Troxell, and Dan Gault, swept the tournament with an amazing (6-0) record. They won the whole thing after beating the "Whiners" consisting of seniors Liz Burger, Sarah Weidhaas, Stefany Shaheen, Erica Along, and Ambre Proulx, who had the game ending fall.

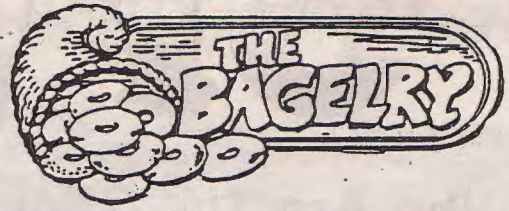
"Oh man, it was awesome," said Jes Alford, a freshman who watched almost all of the tournament.

As for Twister tournaments in the future, it looks promising. There are no definite plans but, according to the junior class, it is a fun and easy way to make some extra money.



Chris Jerard, Kyle Krouse, Darren Miller, and Danny Gault, winners of Twister. (Preston photo)

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## Biology Trip Not Touristy

by Erica Along and Megan Armitage

When one thinks of spring break, you think beachball, some sand and a lot of loud music. Yet a select group of Oyster River students are taking a journey into a place where vested anteaters and spider monkeys roam. They're taking a trip to Costa Rica. They are going to experience true wilderness in a tropical setting.

Mr. Byrnes, one of our very own biology teachers, is leading the group into the great unknown. And everything that they take they must carry on their backs. He told us, "This is not your touristy, bring your floral shorts vacation, but an adventure."

Mr. Byrnes also added that one of his biggest concerns is that if they wait too long, there won't be any real wild life to see. They are first going to spend a few days in a virgin rain forest, then catch a ferry to Nicoya Peninsula.

This is the second time Mr. Byrnes has taken his students to Costa Rica. This time eight people are going, not including adults. They are going to be leaving April 22, and returning May 1.

## Overcrowding at Oyster River

by Jason Bennington

Many of the younger siblings of present Oyster River students are going to find a much different school life in only a few short years. Due to the projected overcrowding of classrooms in the Oyster River Elementary School, the school will not exist by September of 1993.

The Oyster River Elementary School building will be entirely devoted to grades 5 - 8. The middle school would be above its capacity by 1996 if these changes are not made. Advantages to making the entire building one school, are that it will only require one library, one health station, and one administrative/guidance station. This will leave room to develop more classrooms.

*"Expansion at Mast Way and Moharimet may result in larger elementary schools than many would like."*

For grades K - 4, students will go to Mast Way and Moharimet in Lee and Madbury. Superintendent John Powers noted, "Expansion at Mast Way and Moharimet Schools may result in larger elementary schools than many would like." But he feels the possible 425 student capacity is "viable". The facilities at these sites will be designed for elementary purposes only.

These plans are only tentative, but with present budget, this appears to be the best solution at hand.



# OP/ED

## Who Are The Stinkers In the Hallway?

Who is the jerk that has been polluting Senior hall with the most disgusting smells this side of my grandfather's bathroom? I don't know, but I'd sure like to give he or she a piece of my mind and a spray can of Lysol.

Does someone really think that filling the hall with these atrocious scents is funny? I mean, they have to come out of class plugging their nose too. I guess I'll never know. But I'm getting pretty sick of the spoiled milk, skunk essence and animal feces aromas filling the hall where innocent bystanders are trying to walk to class and need oxygen to do so. In fact, I was really annoyed when I had to remove a handful of moth balls from my mail box.

This is a perfect indication that ORHS student's don't have great respect for this school and their fellow students. The sad thing is it probably is upperclassmen causing all the smell trouble, because most of the air pollution occurs in Senior hall. But then again, if you had two more months of high school atmosphere, wouldn't you want to spend it in the freshest air possible?

Come on guys! If the culprits are reading this article, please respect our wishes as a school community and cool it with the bad smell in the locker gag. It is getting old. There is nothing we can do as students when someone in the crowd pollutes our own building (except write an editorial). We must be victims and continue to breathe foul air, until these idiots with Pee Wee Herman senses of humor, stop their childish shananagins.

## A Word From Our School Board Representative

To the editor:

I'm the newly elected representative to the school board, Neil Bostrom. School board, you ask? What do they do? The school board sets up all the policy for the school district. There might be a time when you think a policy is affecting your rights or learning experience. The school board can change these policies to make a better place for everyone.

Right now the school board is dealing with the issue of overcrowding. The thought of K-4, 5-8: K-5,6-8: K-6,7-8 are all possibilities. Is this overcrowding issue getting to be too much? All these I can comment on during the school board meetings.

What do you think the priorities of the school board should be? During the next meeting the priorities will be decided and I will have a voice. What will I say? I am a representative, I need to represent someone! I need your comments.

If you want to ask questions or make suggestions, I will be glad to debate it with you and if you have any case I will bring it at committee meetings I choose. Any specific comments I will bring to the individual committees as well as the whole board.

Neil Bostrom

**Danger: Breathing  
can be hazardous  
to your health!**

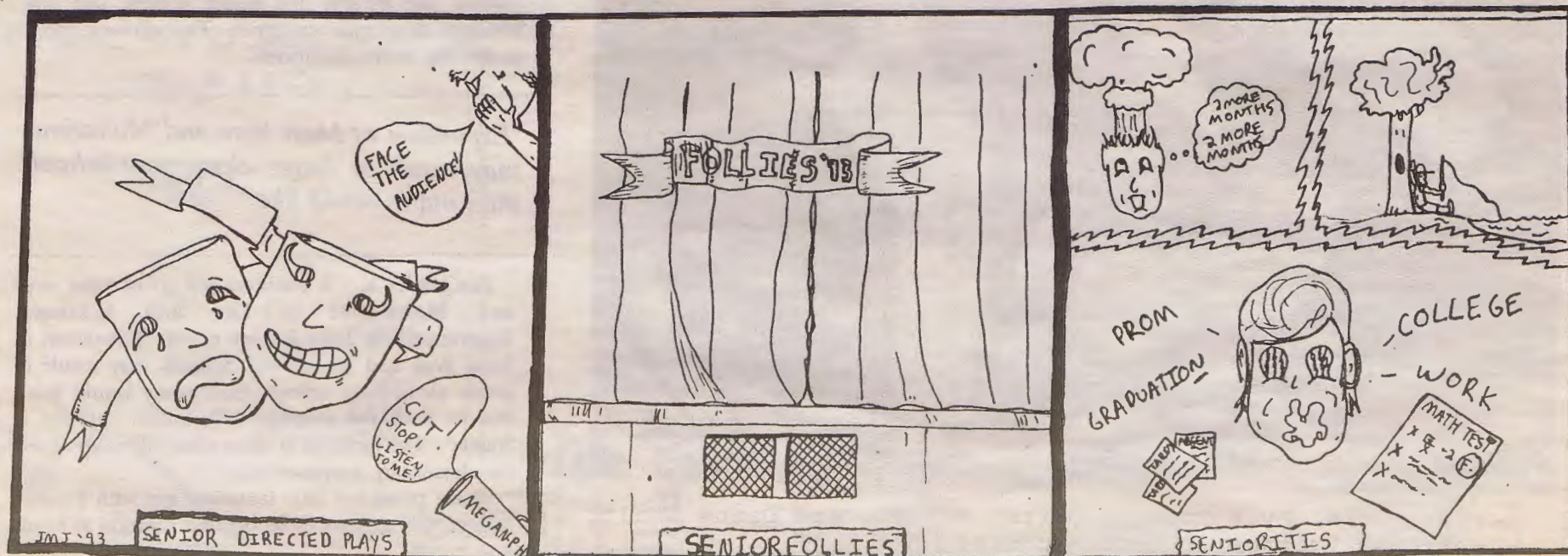


## At OR, The Show Will Go On

Senior Follies is coming up in a few nights and it will be interesting to see how risque it will be. Those crazy seniors have had their tiffs with the administration in the past, as well as several other student productions having a few challenges of their own. How far can the students push their bounds without being censored? Over the course of the 92 - 93 school year little, if anything, has been restricted from being said. This held true all the way from lunch room gossip to the most recent senior directed plays. Many people felt that in both of these areas, a little too much was said, but who should be the ones to judge?

Oyster River has always been considered a fairly liberal school and this year its liberality has been shown. In senior play "Of Widows and Vegetables" there were things such as a sexually connotative zucchini and a rather demonstrative gay dentist. Should these be part of school productions? Some say yes and some say no. Fortunately, for the students here at OR, our administration has yet to say we have gone too far.

Where is the line to be drawn for what can go on that space that sits between the gym and cafeteria? I think as long as students are careful to use everything they do very lightly and humorously, we will be all set. We should not encourage anything either morally or physically damaging. We don't want students to leave a production and go shoot up heroin and then get together and gang rape all of Durham. Oh, no. When portraying situations that may be a little less than what we expect people to live up to, these times should be no more than a time to reflect and laugh and say 'What silly people' but nothing more. Hopefully, as long as it is in all good fun, the shows will go on.





# When You Are A Teenager, Accidents Happen

by Mike Johnston, Richard Tappan, & MOR Staff

After you turn 16, you want to save gas money and the environment by riding the bus. NOT. Any way you look at it, students over the past few years have started becoming more and more independent when it comes to getting to and from school. And as many of them soon realize, driving to school can be ten times more hazardous to your health than a failing report card.

The surprising total of accidents has sparked some interest as to why this is happening. According to the State of New Hampshire we are competent enough to drive, and we've all taken Driver's Ed., so what's the problem? Weather? Poorly maintained public roads? A new trend to adjust the radio dial while simultaneously making a U-turn and sipping a hot cup of coffee?

Certainly the extreme weather the New England area has suffered this year has had something to do with it. Much to the chagrin of insurance companies forced to carry anyone who wants coverage the seemingly endless amounts of snow, the apparently



*Everyone loves the idea of driving!*



teflon coated black-ice, and the mountainous frost-heaves have left more than one unfortunate student stuck in a snowbank or hugging a tree in a rather non-political way.

One female senior did a 360 on the General Sullivan Bridge in a dramatic lane change move. A sophomore boy initiated his parents' car in an attempted demolition of their garage. A senior male gives "black ice" as the "absolute and certain cause" of his departure from the roadway and his frontal attack on a maple tree (the tree won). A senior dude who prides himself on showing off with the "ladies" managed to reverse direction in one truck length while zipping down Mill Road.

Some upperclassmen and women have been attacked by deer and other aggressive and malicious wildlife while on the way to and from school. M.S. was innocently whipping down Mast Road when one deer distracted him and another smashed his head into his headlight.

Others have had major slambangs in parking lots

where the scurry of traffic whizzing around is more than a stressed teenager can handle. One neurotic senior was the victim of peripheral vision deficiency syndrome. He backed out of a parking space and sideswiped a late model Oldsmobile (the value depreciates quickly after a sideswipe).

Rear-endings are becoming more popular, probably because of the security teenagers feel who drive cars equipped with airbags.

Sophomores are particularly hard-pressed by the task of driving within the lines. This is a major problem in the spring when lines have been worn off the road. Of course who can hold anyone responsible for staying in your own lane or even on the road when the state irresponsibly allows the lines to wear away during the winter?

If these accidents aren't the state's fault, then surely they are the fault of the car manufacturers or due to inadequate accident experience. (Mr. Towle never gives his students roll-over and play dead activities behind the wheel for some reason).

The worst part of teenage driving is these blasted insurance companies who try to hold all teenagers as "assigned risks" just because 75% of us end up as victims of circumstances beyond our control. Hey, what can I say? The world is against us. Life isn't fair.

## Pre-School Administration





# Just Ask ACME - They Will Solve All Your Woes

by Kimberly Anderson and Jeff Stacy

Dear Acme Advice Co.

I am obsessed with an upper classman. I think of him always, even at night when I dream. But I can't get him because I am really overweight, have a very bad complexion problem, and I have signs of a mustache. This upperclassman is very popular and I am a loser. How can I join the popular clique and be close to him?

Sincerely,  
Obese and Obsessed

Dear Obese and Obsessed,

I am sure that you are being over critical of yourself. If you really are all of these things that you described and want a change, here's some advice. Eat well and get exercise, wash your face and invest in some Clearasil, also, there is a facial hair bleach that would help your stash.

If this guy can't like you for who you are, then he's not worth it. Joining his clique won't help, but being yourself will.

Also, try hanging out with him alone. Get to know him and let him know how you feel. Good Luck!

Dear Acme Advice Co.

I have a problem that might stem from my childhood. When everyone leaves the school at night, I break into the janitor's closet and steal the power tools. Next I duct tape them to my body and run in the halls singing "Coming to America" by Neil Diamond. I think that it might have something to do with the tiling in the halls-but I don't know. Help me...

Love-  
Confused

Dear Confused,

You definitely have a problem. If it stems from

your youth then it most likely has nothing to do with the hall tiles.

Talk to your parents; ask them questions about Makita or Black and Decker. If any kind of odd response to power tools springs up, get a shrink.

Sing Neil Diamond at dinner and if they start choking, throwing vegetables, or have any psychotic reaction then they're probably from another planet, which would mean that you are too. Be careful, aliens sometimes eat their young.

Dear Acme Advice Co.

I have been having these really weird dreams lately. I dream that I am a large begonia tuber and in Indonesia when all of a sudden a seven year old Indonesian boy picks me up and douses me in peppercorns. I try to run away but obviously I can't because begonia tubers don't have feet.

I wake up in a cold sweat and can't sleep for the rest of the night. What could this possibly mean?

Sincerely,  
The Tuber

Dear Tuber,

Hmm, I have seen this before. One of my esteemed colleagues believes it is an extremely phallic dream. I only agree somewhat.

The begonia tuber, like other bulbs and seeds, does often represent growing and blossoming into another stage; not necessarily sexual.

Indonesia and the Indonesian boy represents exploration and human kindness. You are travelling, the boy tries to help you, but instead pours peppercorns on you. Everybody knows peppercorn stands for sneezing which means illness.

So-you are going to break free, travel, a foreigner is going to try to help you but will make you sick.

Enjoy!

Dear Acme Advice Co.

My mother is a wonderful person. I get along with her almost all of the time, except when she embarrasses me in public.

She tries to be really cool and be a karate master. She sings really loud to my music regardless of which words she knows.

I think it is funny when it is just the family, but in front of my friends? Help me! I can no longer go into town with her, or step into elevators where they always play Whitney Houston.

Sign Me,  
Embarrassed!

Dear Embarrassed,

I think part of the problem may come from within you. You are jealous of your mother's karate skills. The singing may seem like a big problem but your jealousy is what makes it one. You're obviously fed up with the attention she gets every time she performs her singing or karate in public.

My suggestion to you would be to pick up a karate class or maybe a singing lesson. You obviously will not be happy until you can perform in public as your mother does. Good luck.

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# Got A Problem?



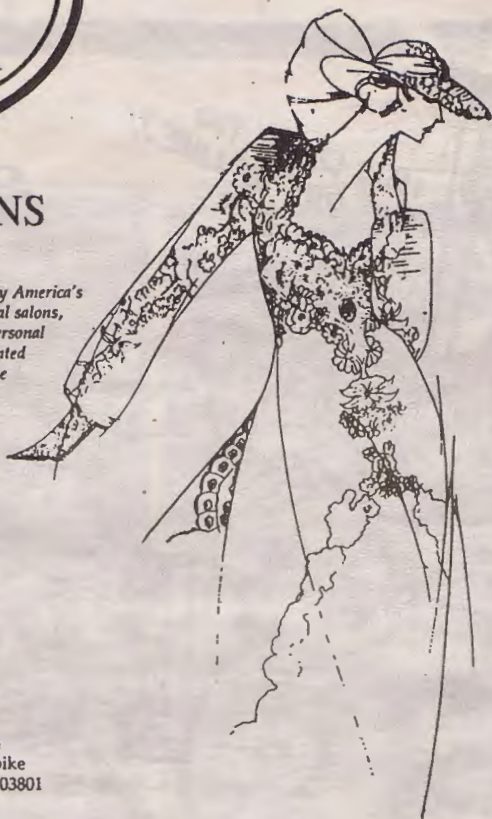
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# TUXEDOS



# Look Into Your Future, Realize Your Fate, Check This Horoscope

by Chandoline Byrnes



## AQUARIUS

Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Ruling planet: Uranus; God of air  
element: air  
principle: social consciousness  
mystical gem: Garnet  
colors: pastel shades of blue & green  
Animal: peacock, eagle  
plant: olive  
forecast: This spring will bring new people into your life.

## PISCES

Feb. 19 - Mar. 20

Ruling planet: Neptune; God of waters  
element: water  
principle: sensitivity  
mystical gem: Bloodstone  
color: lavender  
animal: fishes, dolphin  
plant: poppy  
forecast: Take extra time for yourself this spring, you will benefit in the end.

## ARIES

Mar. 21 - Apr. 20

Ruling planet: Mars; God of war  
element: fire  
principle: self assertion  
mystical gems: amethyst & diamond  
color: bright red  
animal: ram, owl  
plant: tiger lily  
forecast: Beware of shady characters this spring.

## TAURUS

Apr. 21 - May 20

Ruling planet: Venus; goddess of love and beauty  
element: earth  
principle: physical world  
mystical gem: sapphire  
color: blue  
animal: bull  
plant: mallow  
forecast: This season be sure to get outside, the fresh air will do you good.

## GEMINI

May 21 - June 21

Ruling planet: Mercury; god of knowledge  
element: air  
principle: instinctive mind  
mystical gem: emerald  
colors: silver & grey  
animal: magpie  
plant: orchid  
forecast: Don't be afraid to excel at your talents, they could develop enormously.

## CANCER

June 22 - July 22

Ruler: the moon; rules personality  
element: water  
principle: emotions & feelings  
mystical gems: pearl & moonstone  
colors: silver & white  
animal: crab, turtle  
plant: lotus  
forecast: A new inner discovery will lead to lifelong friendships.

## SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

ruling planet: jupiter; god of fortune  
element: fire  
principle: realization  
mystical gem: turquoise  
color: purple  
animal: horse, dog  
plant: rush  
forecast: You may want to change future plans you've made, don't be afraid to give it some thought.

## CAPRICORN

Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

ruling planet: saturn; god of time  
element: earth  
principle: perfection  
mystical gem: onyx  
color: dark green  
plant: indian heather  
forecast: You will soon begin an important friendship, sacrifice will benefit everyone.

## LEO

July 23 - Aug. 22

Ruler: the sun; rules individuality  
element: fire  
principle: self expression  
mystical gem: ruby  
colors: gold & orange  
animal: lion

plant: sunflower  
forecast: Don't forget to show the important people in your life that you really care.

## VIRGO

Aug. 23 - SEPT. 22

Ruling planet: mercury; god of knowledge  
element: earth  
principle: discrimination  
mystical gem: sardonyx  
color: grey  
animals: Anchorites (things that live in seclusion)

plant: narcissus  
forecast: Make extra time for your friends, you will feel better getting out more.

## LIBRA

Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Ruling planet: venus; goddess of love and beauty

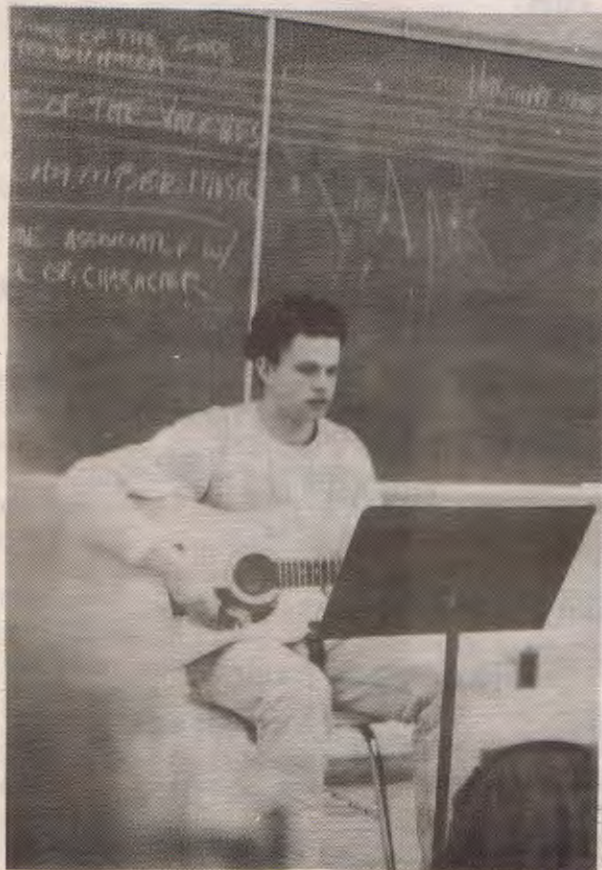
element: air  
principle: partnership  
mystical gem: chrysolite  
color: pastel blue  
animal: elephant  
plant: aloe  
forecast: You may need to be an open ear this spring, remember what goes around comes around.

## SCORPIO

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

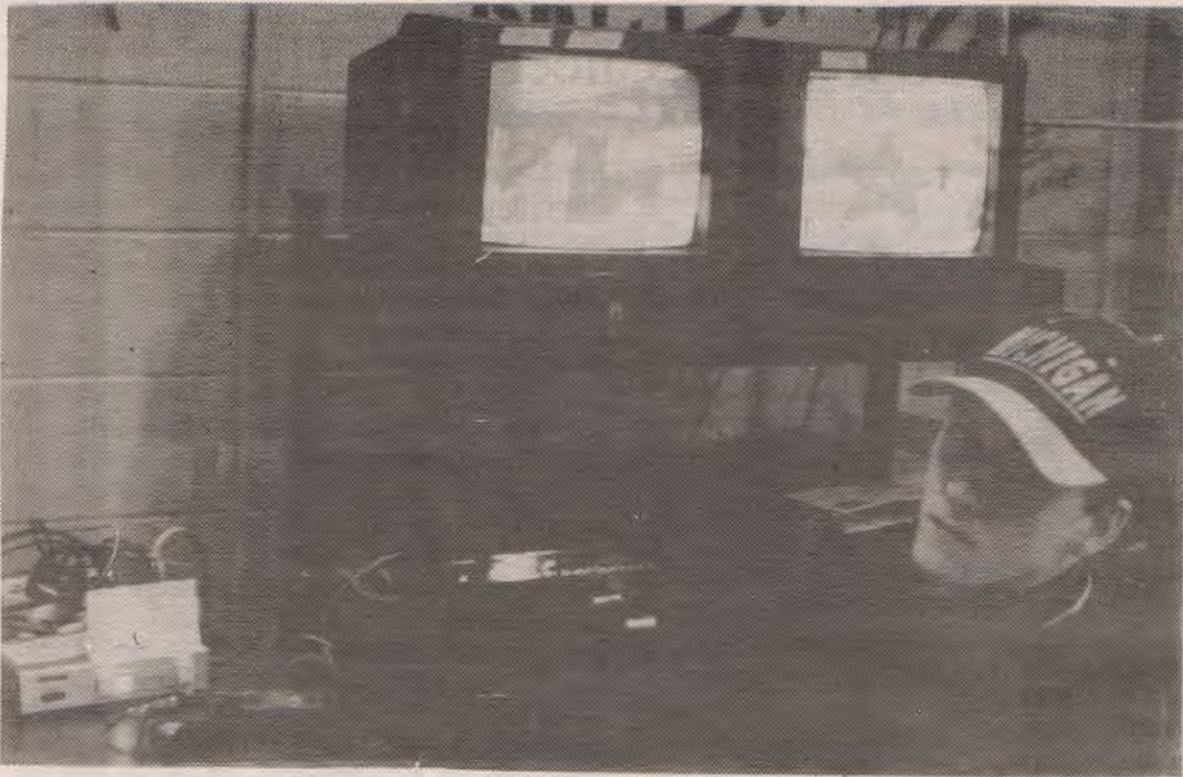
Ruling planet: mars; god of war  
element: water  
principle: death & rebirth  
mystical gem: topaz  
color: dark red  
animal: eagle, wolf  
plant: cactus  
forecast: A new birth in your life may add unexpected stress.

"Walking" -- Personal experiences walking is the concept around which Explo is building its next performance.



Chris Weisman tries out a song as members of EXPLO share ideas that will become part of the play.





Sean Wilson prepares for District Meeting.

## Behind the Scenes With The TV Screens

by Chris Kasiewicz

It was early morning on Saturday March 6, 1993. The greatly publicized district meeting was on the verge of commencing. Paul Gasowski, and some students, had just finished setting up the "In school closed circuit television network" to cover the event. They were raring to go, and ready for the crowds.

The network sounds complicated, but actually it is really quite simple. The whole school (1st floor) has coaxial cable run through the ceiling, which goes into the editing room.

These cables also run into the gym, music room, and room five. Now, because of the addition of two new wires, it is possible to hook up video cameras and send a picture into the editing room. The idea for this network has been brewing in Mr. Gasowski's mind for quite some time. Thanks to the school district, new additions to the video department, were

a new video camera, which proved to be very useful, as well as the new cables. "It was much more complicated than it has been in the past," said Mr. Gasowski.

The new setup was able to accommodate over two thousand people. Which was the same as the amount of people expected to show up.

The system was run by current and former students of Mr. Gasowski's Video tape production class, which included seniors Joel Preston, Sean Wilson, Ian Fitzpatrick, Sean Healy and John Hill, Junior Monica Hudson and Sophomores Mike Herman and Mali Welch. "From our end I think it went well," commented Gasowski.

Unfortunately only 1200 people showed up, considerably less than expected. But that did not effect the outcome of the meeting, or the performance of the crew. "I think it worked out really well," said Gasowski about the turn out of the meeting.

## Watch It!

by Megan Armitage

Watching a movie for the sake of watching one, is like going to church if you are an athiest. It doesn't really serve a true purpose--movies should compliment your mood. And if you're going to numb your eyes in front of a radioactive box for two hours, you might as well get the full effect. So, I've picked a few "underground" movies that would be fully appreciated in the right mood.

If you are in a pondering,let's-think-so-hard-that-our-brains-throb mood, then I recommend "Eraser Head" by David Lynch. This surreal black and white film allures you to the edge of a cliff and then pushes you off. This movie is like a Dirt Devil that sucks you in and then you're stuck in a vacuum bag surrounded by lint.

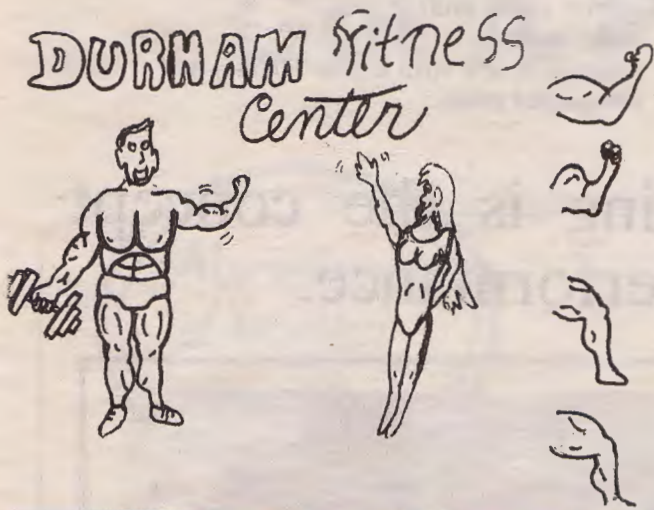
The foundation of the film is built upon an interview with a psychologicly disturbed person about his life. With David Lynch sitting in the director's seat--it goes for an interesting compliment. Heed warning- there is a woman singing in a radiator, a mutant baby on a dresser, and a man with split ends.

Yet I also advise you to have a cassette of "Three is Company" handy to push you out of the vacuum bag.... the Reagle Beagle has that mysticle effect on people.

My second film is for when you are in a fluffy Malomar mood. The perfect movie is "Killer Clowns from Outter Space." It's about demonic alien clowns that come to earth. They've come to transform people into cotton candy for them to masticate.

This antisocial film plays on the typical B - movies themes that have haunted us for decades. What makes this film ideal is the great contradictions it creates within the movie. Such as cute little clowns being brutal killers and popcorn transforming into ugly little monsters.

There you go. So, the next time you are in the movie rental place -- pass by the "Pretty Woman's" and the "Lethal Weapon's" of the video world and go straight to the true classics.



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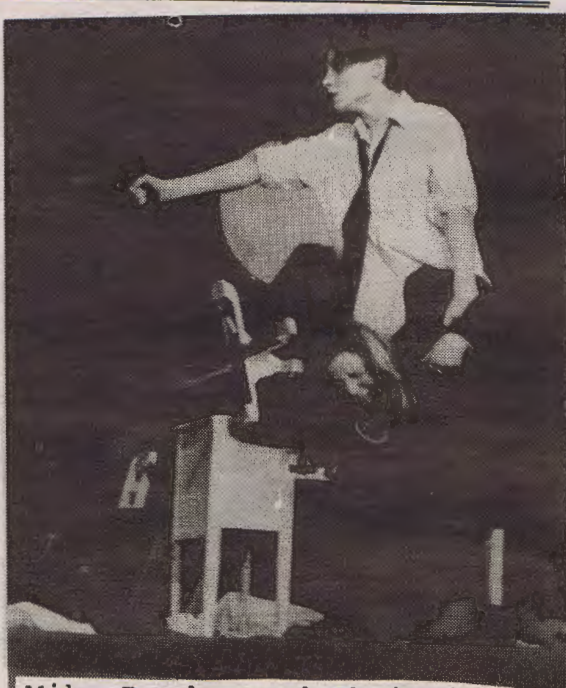
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Chris Weisman in "Ibis Tern".  
(Craig Allen photo)



Mike Pazden and Christine  
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# Have You Ever Dreamed of Being A Hero?

by Dan Gault and Vicki Walker

Have you ever dreamed of being a hero? Did you ever want to be the one to rescue someone from a burning building or capture a psychotic killer? Well, a group of students from the high school has taken that opportunity through a program called Explorers.

Explorers is a program geared toward students who like to learn about fire-fighting and police work through hands-on training in classes held once a week. The Police Explorers program is located here in Durham. Mike Johnston, Mark DeRocchi, Chris Tibedo, Danielle Tischler and Steve Shackford all participate in the program.

These explorers get to direct traffic, take mug shots, and ride along in a patrol car. Even though they cannot arrest anyone, according to Mike Johnston there is still a lot of excitement.

"One explorer got involved in a chase with a peeping Tom on campus. He, the explorer, spotted the guy in the bushes. The police officer then tackled and arrested him," said Johnston.

The program is directed for people from the ages of 14 to 21.

If any students are interested in that field, there is a once a week academy in Durham.

The fire-fighting program runs in the same manner as the police program. Mark MacBeth has been in the program for three years. He enjoys fire-fighting even though as a student there are limits to his job.

"I can fight in forest fires, but I cannot go into a burning building," said Mark. He continued, "Even though there are limits to what we are able to do, there is no lack in the excitement or the knowledge learned from being there first hand."

Mark would like to pursue a fire-fighting career and also would like to become an E.M.T. (Emergency medical technician) as well.

Bill Simmons who is also in the program does not wish to pursue fire-fighting as a career. He



Durham Police Explorer Mark Derocchi (left) with Durham Fire Explorer Bill Simmons (right) in front of Durham's Engine 1.

wants to do something a little more challenging, like becoming a rocket scientist.

Others in the program include, Dave Golding, and Chris Mendleson.

Senior Mark DeRocchi, however, has taken his interest in fire-fighting a step further. He is now becoming a certified fire fighter. Taking State classes three days a week, he learns the skills needed to be a fire-fighter. "Although being on call 24 hours a day can lead to long nights, there is no experience like it," commented DeRocchi, he continued, "this summer I'll be participating on the Lee fire muster team, another experience that is very rewarding."

"There's nothing like the feeling like responding to a scene and not knowing what is wrong, but knowing you're going to help others," said Mark.

The Explorers has been in existence for over three years, and with a little help from these

students, the program will prove to be a success and will continue.

## Community Service Few Participate in 92 - 93

by Amy Dolliver and Mike Toleos

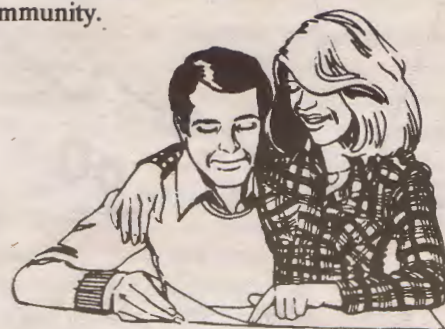
Supervisors of the Community Connection Program are concerned with the inconsistent attendance of members involved. There are currently 25 participants, who according to supervisors, show up to volunteer their time sporadically.

Coordinator Tricia Kleif commented, "Community Service is something that the students want to do, not something that they have to do." For this reason, it is hard for Kleif to understand the uncommitted attitudes of some members of the program. "We have plenty of willing participants, but they show up on occasion" commented Kleif. The group feels they need more people who will consistently contribute to the program. According to Mrs. Williams, the program advisor, more thorough advertising would increase the number of students willing to devote their time.

Community service gives and teaches the responsibilities of the real world," stated Mrs. Williams. There are eight different programs in which students may get involved in. These programs include; a friend to the elderly, the big buddy system, hospice, peer tutor, the humane society, a safe place and the soup kitchen. The most popular, "Big Buddy" program involves students taking an elementary student under their wing. Most feel the program develops lasting friendships and builds bonds of trust. One student stated, "It's a lot of time to invest, but it's worth it. The kids really look up to you and respect your opinions."

"Working with people and giving them something to look forward to," is one of the reasons why coordinator Christie Wozniak decided to become involved in the Friend to the Elderly Program. According to those involved, to get the most out of the program and to make it successful you must be willing to make a serious commitment.

With most Oyster River student's busy schedules, hopefully students will make time for bettering our community.



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## Substance Abuse Topic at Leadership Conference

by Dan Gault

Thursday and Friday March 18th and 19th in Bedford, was the site of the second annual Athletic Leadership conference.

The conference consisted of approximately 400 students from schools in N.H., as well as many speakers. There were ten students from Oyster River in attendance. The main focus this year according to athletic director Dave Nichols was chemical abuse.

Upon arriving in Bedford on Thursday, the students became acquainted with one another. Then they split up into smaller groups and attended talks from nutrition experts, professional weight lifters and several other speakers and leaders. "Leadership, sportsmanship and personal growth were highly stressed at the conference. They emphasized that you can really do whatever you want to, and to never count yourself out," said senior Jen Friel.

The students then slept overnight. Which according to sophomore Ryan Bellabona was the best part. "There was no curfew and we could walk around all night and talk if we wanted to." He continued, "This was cool because at home my mom and dad make me go to bed by ten and here I was in charge, I felt cool."

Friday morning consisted of talks including open discussion on rules and regulations involving chemical use/abuse among high school athletes. Jen Friel stated, "We talked to coaches and experts and it was really interesting. I enjoyed meeting people from other schools, everyone was heavily involved in athletics. Many people knew others on the team personally on the team that were using drugs or alcohol."

"People think that athletes are immune to the temptations of drugs and alcohol. When actually they mirror it, there is however, less use of, 'hard drugs' among athletes, but more often the use of steroids," said Nichols.

Junior, Seth DeForest added, "It really opened my eyes, I knew that some people used drugs, but I was not aware of the amount of athletes." Bellabona agreed, "I was not aware of the amount of use even at O.R."

"There were two schools represented that had experimented with the teams taking an oath among themselves for themselves, saying that they would remain chem free for the entire season. They would help each other. It was successful," said Nichols.

Looking back at the conference there seems to be a definite agreement of those that attended. "It was great" commented DeForest. "Yes, a good time was had by all," added Bellabona. "I've really learned a lot."

## New Crop of OR Bands at Clam Creek

by Chris Williams

The ever changing and everlasting bands of Oyster River have once again metamorphosized into a new set of bands. The bands have been switching members and been mixing up after every graduation for years. This year's combination has left us with Aqua Velvet which is Jazz, Clov which the group describes as "Dynamic Gothic Pop" and The Maggotz which is a ska/hard core band.

Aqua Velvet is made up of Rob Martin playing the piano, Mike Merenda on drums, Liz Firczuk playing flute, Chris Weisman on sax, and Ben Stamper on bass. They have played in many places including the Licker Store and Espresso Bar, here in Durham, and The Pressroom in Portsmouth. When Aqua Velvet plays they draw a big crowd of both students and adults. Senior Chuck Bryon said, "I think for a jazz band in southeast New Hampshire, they have the smooth blues monkey grin sound. I like them a lot." Many see their jazz as refreshing, and a sound of pure music. "There is a lot of great improvisation," said Senior Greg Tuveson.

Clov is made up of Ben Stamper and Chris Weisman. They both play a wide variety of instruments including guitar, electric bass, piano, vocals, and the water pick. Chris Kasiewicz said that he thought Clov "sounded like a poetic Beatles." Even though they have never played anywhere, they have made twelve tapes which they copied and distributed to fifteen or twenty people.

The Maggotz describe themselves as a ska/core band with influences such as the Ramones, the

English Beat, and Fugazi. They have been playing together for about 2 years. The band members are Ben Conrad on vocals, James Waskiewicz on bass, Brendan Crill playing guitar, and Liam Crill on drums. Even though the Maggotz have only had one show they have already put together two tapes "Throw Fud At Us" and "Looking Through Toilet Paper."

What is it that makes O.R. bands special? Aqua Velvet Drummer Mike Merenda said that he thought it was because students at Oyster River "look for alternative ways to express themselves."

So what do we have to look forward to from Oyster River? Definitely many more bands with all new sounds saying what they feel should be said.



### ETHICS: cont. from pg. 1

sophomore. Some people are adamantly against drugs where some really don't mind. One male senior said, "the use of drugs and/or alcohol can even be a problem when used sparingly."

Does the administration respect and listen to us? In two different questions, over half the students respond negatively. "The administration shows no individual respect to students. How can we respect them or ourselves if they don't respect us?" said male sophomore, but one female sophomore strongly disagreed, "In order to get respect you must give them reason to respect you. Besides you can't

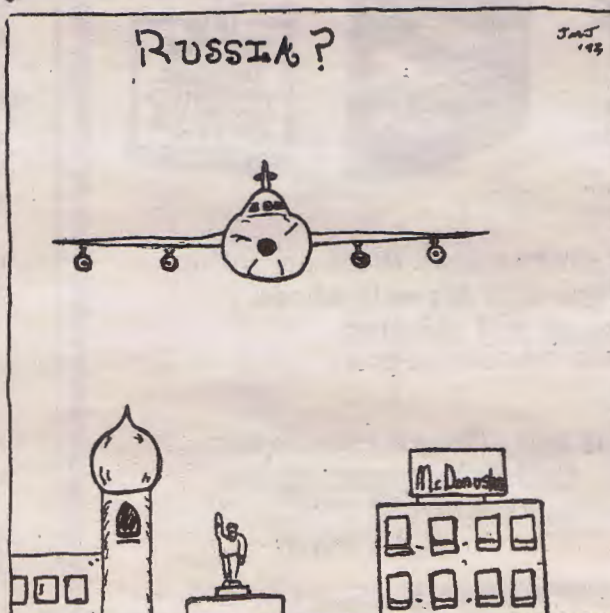
generalize the whole administration into one category. Some are nice some are not."

"Sex is an issue in almost every teen's life. Everywhere you look, somebody is trying to sell sex; whether its on billboards, music, or T.V. its hard to get away from," said a female junior. Seventy-one out of 108 disagree that having sex with people whom you don't have a loving relationship with is okay, as long as its mutual, but a strong majority of students disagree or strongly disagree that premarital sex is wrong. Most of the responders that were strongly against premarital sex were also extremely religious. Very few responders were religious or based their daily decisions around religion, but there were the exceptions. "Religion is a very big and important part of my life," and "I base my decisions on they way God would want me to," said two male seniors.

After all the factors straining on adolescents' lives, does this affect their general well-being? Seventy-four out of 108 agree that they respect themselves both physically and mentally. They also disagree that they get depressed or moody without good reason.

This would indicate that over 25% of the students have some self-esteem problems. However, several students stated that having self doubts is "not uncommon during your teens."

The data has yet to be broken down by sex or grade. These results will be printed in a later issue of MOR.

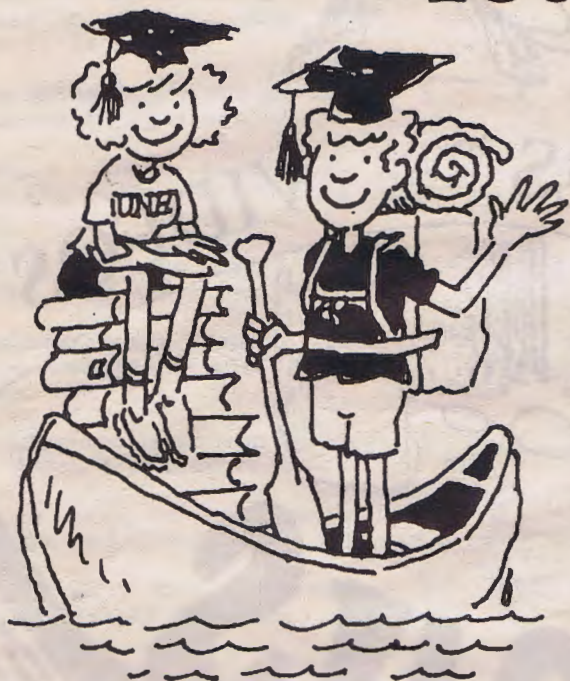






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## Senior Team Tops In Clam Slam

by Kelly DeForest and Garrick Olson

Beginning on March 10 and ending on the 18th, the Student Council held its annual Clam Slam Volleyball Tournament. Once again the program was a rousing success with some ten teams participating, including a team fielded by the ORHS faculty. The winners of the tournament were: Sara Weidhaas, Stefany Shaheen, Jen Friel, Jill Shapiro, Scott Troxell, Darren Miller, Danny Gault, and Chris Jerard. Each received a gift certificate from "The Bagelry" or "The Licker Store" for their efforts.

Scott Troxell summed up the experience for the winners by saying, "The final game was a memorable experience for all those involved. Other teams needed more than luck, they needed a miracle to beat us." Comments from other participants ranged from "it was a lot of fun" to "it was a little unorganized and lasted to long."

Not all points of view were totally favorable. Mr. Tappan, a faculty participant commented that "it was a great activity for getting people involved, but if the teams weren't allowed to divide up in certain social groupings, you would develop better school unity."

This year the Student Council experimented with a new ruling for determining the length of a game. In order to speed up the tournament they tried having the team ahead after 15 minutes automatically declared the winner. After the first day's events this proved to be an unpopular decision so they changed back to the old method, which was the best two out of three games. The first two games went to 11 points and the last game was decided after seven. This proved to be much more popular.

Danny Gault said proudly, "Looking back ten years from now, I will be able to tell my kids, I won the Clam Slam Tournament at Oyster River High School in 1993."

## OR Tennis Storms Through First Matches

by Robert Murphy

OR has stormed through their first two boys' tennis matches as they have used a balance attack to dispose of Kingswood and Deeryfield respectively.

In their season opener against Kingswood Josh Jenkins, and Chris Wesley shut out their oponents, while the other four singles players gave up no more than 3 games as they shut out the Knights 9-0.

Following the Kingswood match the 'Cats expected a much tougher match from class S powerhouse Deeryfield. The previous year OR had got beaten badly 7-2 twice.

However, on this day OR had the best of the visitors, as all the singles players won their matches. Although they lost 2 out of 3 doubles matches the match was already over and some of the lesser seeds got an opportunity to play.

Darren Miller gives a lot of the credit to coach Tim Craig as he stated, "All of our mental conditioning definately paid off." He continued, "While they were argued and fought with one another, we kept our poise and just took it to them."

The team believes that they have a chance at a state title and their first two matches only enforced that thought. Top seed sophomore Josh Jenkins feels very confident on the season. "We're going to walk over anybody that gets in our way." Sophomore Chris Davis looked into his crystal ball and stated, "I think we'll go 12-6 this season."

The leaders on the team contribute the amount of success they bring, this year leaders will be seniors Darren Miller, Chris Cloitre, and Dan Gault.

In an interview with senior captain Darren Miller he expressed the feeling that the team would do very well this season. He commented, "With 5 returning varsity players we will bring experienced into the matches." The question arose that with all the young players this season, it would be a season to build and

## Spring Track

# Runners, Jumpers, and Throwers Hoping For Third Championship

by John Slippy

This year's crop of Oyster River spring track runners has a number of things going for it. Not only is it growing in size, but it is ripe with athletic upperclassmen, as well as several underclassmen whose names are known well in N.H. for their athletic abilities.

According to team members, the strong events for the team this year will be in the long to middle distances. "We're very strong. If we had some good

out," said Heather, "which is good for the future of the team."

With bits of a state championship still in their teeth after eating up the competition of the winter season, the boy's team is carrying a great amount of momentum into the spring season. The new weight system is "awesome and really spread out", according to Neil Bostrom. Other members also expressed approval of the new system and its "roomier" setup, having the six stations spread around along the walls. The old setup had only four stations in the center of the room with one station on each side of the unit. The big question on the mind of coaches and



The Track team.

sprinters and throwers, we could have another state championship under our belts. That would really make a good triple-crown, state championships in cross-country, winter track and spring track."

"As a team we'll be very competitive and have good chances to excel in our class," said Garrick Olsen.

The number of girls participating in spring track this year has also grown in numbers to over 20 girls. This is a huge increase compared to the winter track season and the last spring season with less than 10 girls competing in either of the two.

Sophomore Heather Carmichael said that the strong events for the girls this season will be the relays. "The distribution of grades is pretty spread

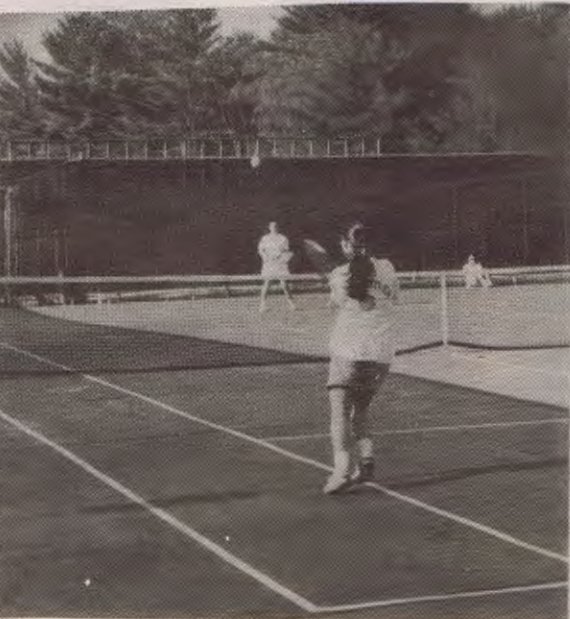
younger track members is, "What's going to happen next year?" This year, the majority of the "point scoring" boys track members are seniors. This core group of guys has seen state titles and numerous victories in all three running seasons over the past four years. "It will have a tremendous impact on next year's team," said senior Garrick Olsen.

"We have a lot of people out for the team," coach Byrnes said, "Even though we haven't been able to practice outdoors, I'm very optimistic. It's potentially the best team we've had in several years. They're really a hard working group."

The first meet for the boys and girls track team is April 16 at Winnecunnett High School vs. Pinkerton and Winnacunnett.

not strive for, but Darren Miller disagreed and stated, "Lets make hay while the sun shines."

With many young talent it would appear that many underclassmen would shine but Dan Gault say otherwise, "It won't be the underclassmen that will shine, it will be the Seniors."



by Robert Murphy

Lack of practice has not affected the OR girls' tennis team as they have started the season with a bang with two convincing victories.

Although the girls' tennis team hadn't had a real practice they still hosted Kingswood for their first match. Throughout this match the girls put forth a good effort in winning 6 out of 9 matches. (4 singles and 2 doubles). A disappointing day for top seeded Jill Shapiro who lost her singles match as well as her doubles match with #2 Jen Friel.

On her play Jen stated, "It was good to win my singles match, I believe once Jill and I get more practice we'll cruise right along." The other disappointing loss came from #4 seeded Sarah Gooze who lost her singles match but won her doubles match with #3 seeded Jaime Smith. Sarah stated, "I didn't play to my potential, but that won't happen again, as to the rest of the team they did really well."

Following the Kingswood match OR cruised passed Derryfield, as they shut them out 9-0. Number 1 seed Jill Shapiro was pleased with the teams performance as she stated, "Everyone played well." However, she continued to say, Derryfield "was a very inexperienced team."



# O.R. Sports

Issue 4

Mouth of the River is a publication of the ORHS Journalism Class

April 14, 1993

## Baseball Swings Into Season

by Garrick Olson

On March 21, the first ball was thrown on the way toward a promising season for the the Oyster River boys baseball team.

Though expectations are high for this season, "the team is just getting started and it will take time to reach our full potential," said Jeff Stacey, a returning starter from last year's team.

A major problem that teams all over the state are sharing with OR is the fact that they have yet to practice outside with the regular season scheduled to start on Monday. On the issue junior Tucker Katz commented, "It is hard to practice day in and day out inside." He continued, "With so many new faces it is hard to get a feel of one another."

"A successful season is not always determined by just wins and losses. Continuous improvement and team unity also play a significant part for a successful year," according to Andy Dumont another returning senior from last year's team. Andy went on to say that he is confident that the team will enjoy more triumphs than defeats.

Every person on the team is focused on doing well and carrying that energy forward to the state tournament. Mark DeRocchi explained some of the off-season training the team has been going through. "A lot of people have been working very hard since last year doing weight lifting, playing in summer leagues and playing in other sports to keep in shape. I really think we are prepared for this year, physically and mentally."

The 'Cats are hoping to continue on the successful 11-7 season last year. OR is looking for leadership with the likes of Chris Jerard and Jeff Stacy and with power hitting from Josh Stevens. Chris Jerard feels that "With good team unity and excellent leadership from Coach LaChance, we know that we will be competitive and should improve steadily during the season. I also feel that because we are a young team, next year should be even better."

## Softball Hopes For Change

by Mike Merenda and Jeff Stacy

Despite a losing streak of 48 games straight, stretching over three seasons, the softball team is entering this season with new hope. That hope comes in the form of a new coach.

Lynn Spang, the fourth coach in as many seasons seems confident and eager to start the season. "A new coach brings new hope to the team" says senior Erica Along. Kim Golding, a former team captain, added, "People developed a bad work ethic from coaches in the past."

So, why has the team suffered such a tremendous losing streak? "We had a young team with little experience. Only about three or four people had played softball before" said Erica Along. On the other hand, Kim Golding attributed the problem to attitude, lack of effort, desire and team unity. "People were worrying more about playing time and personal conflicts than trying to improve themselves."

Sophomore Kelly DeForest said, "We lacked skill, experience, and a good attitude." DeForest then added, "People put their gloves in the garage after the last game and leave them there until the next season."

Virtually everyone interviewed seemed to agree that once the team got into a rut they lost their motivation and will to succeed. "Eventually it became a joke, we knew that we were going to lose anyway."



The Faculty Twister Team.

## O.R.H.S. FALL SPORTS WRAP-UP

by Gabe Wallman

Through the eventful winter months the variety of sports teams turned surprises, disappointments, and a state championship.

The lone state championship from the winter came from the boys track team. They ended the "ultimate" season with a victory at the state championships. When I asked Kyle Krouse of what he felt about the championship year he stated, "We're state champions. Nothing else needs to be said."

Girls varsity basketball surprised many people as they enjoyed their first season in a long time in which they made the playoffs. Receiving a 5th seed in the state tournament they defeated Timberlane before succumbing to Monadnock in the quarterfinals. Jen Friel highlighted the season as she scored her 1,000th point as well as breaking the girls school record for scoring. Senior tri-captain Stefany Shaheen reflected on the season. "It was a tremendous learning experience from both sides of the spectrum."

Following an extremely discouraging season in which the OR hockey team experienced a record of 1-18-1, this year they had much success in which they ended with a record of 11-7. They concluded their season with a thrilling, but heartbreaking loss against Manchester Central. Losing the game 4-3, in a sudden death overtime.

Senior Danny Gault stated, "We never once gave

up and fought to the end." He added, "We finally got our due respect." This is shown through the fact that they placed John Hill, Mike Merenda, and Chris Williams on Foster's Dream Team. In addition, coach Jeff Smith received coach of the year for the seacoast.

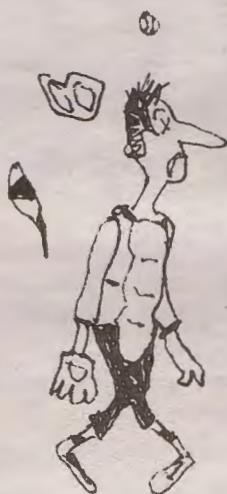
The swimming team also experienced a successful season as they placed 5th in the state meet. Senior Todd Whittford showed his pleasure. "The season went very well. We worked as a team and came closer together."

Following a state championship last year, the OR boys' basketball team graduated 9 players. With many new and inexperienced faces. OR was never able to overcome their lack of experience as they faltered to a 5-13 year.

Jeff Stacy examined the season as follows. "It is hard to go from a championship season to a record like we had this year. However, with the players we lost it was a difficult situation for the team."

The girls' track team was burdened by the fact that they did not have the numbers necessary on the team to compete with teams throughout the state. As a result, they finished with a record of 7-23.

Now that the winter is behind us, one must wonder what is in store for spring sports. Will the track team thrive on their success and win another state title? Will the softball team win a game? Will the baseball team improve on their 11-7 season? Will the tennis teams advance further in the playoffs? Only time will be able to answer these questions.



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